

①

No. SIN/321/21/11

High Commission of India  
SINGAPORE

⑦

Sub: INA Memorial - Singapore.

Keep  
15/12/15



### Other References

SIN/162/10/2007	INA Memorial in Singapore,
SIN/321/30/11	A 35 page Booklet on Netaji brought out by ISEAS and High Commission in 2011
SIN/327/17/12 Index no. 665	Visit by members of Netaji Subhash kranti manch to Singapore in October 2012
SIN/P/162/7/2012 Index no. 716	Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and INA Memorial, Singapore, contains clippings of Strait Times of Jan, Feb. 2012
SIN/321/28/13 Index no. 722	Indian Heritage Centre

(Pages. CORR-1-5)

①

Subject: A Message from HCI Singapore  
From: HC Singapore <hc.singapore@mea.gov.in>  
Date: Fri, 24 Jun 2011 15:24:34 +0800  
To: fsoffice@mea.gov.in, secyeasto@mea.gov.in

For PS

Kindly download the attached message and acknowledge receipt.

Thanks and Regards

PPS to HC  
HCI Singapore  
24.6.11

o/c Issued. 24/6/11

SINHC24062011-03.egm

24-06-2011  
A625B6632E0EACA2FF8662B83C55018849D7A195D318551C25B396AC747DD83F6DA5382F355B7B002DBF683F54C10CA7DF046140C988AD87C44E782A05A923258DCCFFFE87099  
B91EBC645A22D66B535E0A1C3C817B36

SINHC24062011-03.egm	Content-Type: text/plain
	Content-Encoding: quoted-printable

K1:

T1:

in 24/6

DHC

del

AH (PR)

**For official use only****No. of pages: 2**

No. SIN/ISI/321/21/11

June 24, 2011,

**E-GRAM**

From : Hicomind Singapore  
To : Foreign New Delhi

Rpt.: Secretary (East), MEA, New Delhi

**Director (FSO) from High Commissioner**

Reference Egram dated 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011 regarding the Indian National Army Memorial in Singapore.

2. The memorial is not located in Farrer Park as mentioned by Dr. Ranjit Bhargava, but is located at the Esplanade, which is the site of the original INA Memorial. It is close to Padang where INA held its military parade in July 1943. The memorial was put up by the National Heritage Board of Singapore in 1995.

3. I have visited the Memorial from time to time and it is not correct to say that it is not well maintained.

4. Some background detail may be useful: The original INA Memorial which was built by Subash Chandra Bose prior to his final departure from Singapore was destroyed by the British Army after they retook the Island following the defeat of the Japanese. That memorial was a large one and possibly intended to be larger than the British built World War I memorial which stands nearby. A scrutiny of earlier records reveals that the matter of an INA memorial used to be a sensitive one in the past. In the 1960s and the 70s there were occasional references in our Parliament to the absence of an INA Memorial in Singapore. This remained

however a sensitive issue in Singapore as some sections here saw the INA as being an ally of the Japanese who had inflicted considerable hardship on ethnic Chinese Singaporeans during the occupation of the Island in World War II. GOI had decided to not get directly involved in the issue of building up an INA Memorial in Singapore and left it to the people of Indian origin and former INA recruits to pursue the matter with their Government in Singapore. This entire controversy came to rest after the present memorial was put up by the National Heritage Board in 1995. Incidentally there is an Indian Heritage Centre which is being established at the initiative of the local PIO community with full assistance from the Government of Singapore. I understand there is a proposal to make a replica of the INA original memorial destroyed by the British in 1945 in the premises of the Indian Heritage Centre. On the whole our policy of staying in the background on INA related issues is a sound one. This enables the PIO community to take major initiatives to commemorate the INA and Subhas Bose. For example (and coincidentally) the President of Singapore is releasing a biography of Subhas Bose in early July.



(T.C.A. Raghavan)  
High Commissioner

64

Egram

For Official Use Only

No. SIN/321/2/111

23 June, 2011

From Hicomind Singapore  
To Foreign New Delhi

Director(FSO) from High Commissioner

Reference Egram dated 20 June, 2011 regarding Indian National Army Memorial in ~~Farrer Park~~, Singapore.

2. The memorial is not located in Farrer Park as mentioned by Dr Ranjit Bhargava, but is located at the Esplanade, which is the site of the original INA Memorial. It is close to Padang where INA held its military parade in July 1943.

3. The role of the INA is a sensitive issue in Singapore as they were seen as collaborators with the occupying force, i.e. the Japanese Army. The present INA Memorial at Esplanade was put up by Singapore's National Heritage Board in 1995. Government of Singapore is setting up an Indian Heritage Centre, which is expected to include the history of INA in an appropriate manner.

( T.C.A. Raghavan )  
High Commissioner

DFA pl.  
HC  
28/6

E-gram no 153  
21/6/2011

5

For official use only

No. FSO20062011-01

20 June 2011

E-GRAM

From: Foreign New Delhi  
To: Hicomind Singapore

HoM from Director (FSO)

One Dr. Ranjit Bhargava has drawn attention of the Ministry to dilapidated condition of the Indian National Army Memorial in Farrer Park, Singapore and has sought GOI's assistance in restoring the Memorial. He has pointed out that the Memorial has nothing but a small bronze plaque, which is full of scratches and is ill-maintained. He has suggested that with the concurrence of the Government of Singapore, the Memorial made by Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose to the "Unknown Soldiers of the Indian National Army" in July 1945 (?) can be replicated, as there is sufficient open space there.

2. Foreign Secretary has desired that this matter may kindly be looked into and comments and suggestions be sent at an early date.

Where is Farrer Park?

M

(Amit Kumar)

D K C.

21/6